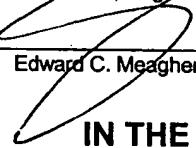


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

PATENT

Docket: 2155 CIP CON (203-3398 CIP CON)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on May 19, 2004.

By:  Date: May 19, 2004
Edward C. Meagher

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : Robert Wham et al.
TITLE : VESSEL SEALING SYSTEM
SERIAL NO. : 10/761,524
FILED : January 21, 2004
EXAMINER : TBD
GROUP : ART UNIT 3739

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
MAILSTOP: Amendment

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.